

March 17, 2008

The Honorable Carl T. Johnson
Administrator
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
East Building, 2nd Floor, PH
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for the November 20, 2007, letter signed by Ms. Stacey Gerard, Assistant Administrator/Chief Safety Officer, concerning Safety Recommendation P-07-1, stated below, which the National Transportation Safety Board issued to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration (PHMSA) on June 7, 2007, as a result of the Safety Board's investigation of a natural gas service line break and subsequent explosion and fire in Bergenfield, New Jersey, on December 13, 2005.

P-07-1

Provide a summary of the lessons learned from the Bergenfield, New Jersey, accident to recipients of emergency planning and response grants.

The Safety Board has reviewed Ms. Gerard's overview of PHMSA's action to implement this recommendation. The Board notes that PHMSA worked with the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) to develop an advisory bulletin for the fire service and that the bulletin includes the lessons learned from the Bergenfield accident. In addition, NASFM developed a gas line break scenario demonstrating the appropriate response to a natural gas leak, PHMSA posted a link to the advisory bulletin and scenario on the "Emergency Officials" page of PHMSA's Pipeline Safety Stakeholder Communications Web site, and NASFM posted the advisory bulletin and scenario on two Web sites: that of the Partnership for Excellence in Pipeline Safety and that of the Pipeline Emergencies Program. The Board further notes that on September 5, 2007, PHMSA e-mailed the Advisory Bulletin and scenario to the recipients of the agency's emergency planning and response grants in 34 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and several Tribal governments. Because these actions satisfy the recommendation, Safety Recommendation P-07-1 is classified "Closed—Acceptable Action."

Thank you for your commitment to pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Mark V. Rosenker
Chairman

cc: Ms. Linda Lawson, Director
Office of Safety, Energy, and Environment
Office of Transportation Policy